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Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 3-18-58

Week Ending 3-17-58

WEATHER Unseasonably cold weather prevailed during the week. Average temperatures for the week were from 8° below normal in the east to 20° below over the south-central portion of the state, with cold weather all week. Low temperatures were near or below zero most of the nights in the west and central. There was much cloudiness, with raw windy days. Light snow fell on several days over the western and southcentral portions of the state, but there was very little precipitation in the east and north-central. The ground is mostly bare in the southeast but a solid snow cover remains in the central and west.

CROPS Muddy conditions and heavy snow continued to hamper farm operations throughout the state. Field activity was virtually at a standstill as farmers waited for snow to disappear and fields to dry sufficiently to start spring work. They were busy again last week lining up fertilizer and seed supplies and getting machinery repaired and in shape for spring tasks. Snow cover in the southcentral and southwestern counties is the heaviest in many years, blocking country roads and lanes and making transportation, farm chores and livestock care extremely difficult.

The soil moisture outlook is exceptionally favorable almost everywhere in the state. Winter grains, pastures and ranges have not yet started spring growth, but they should respond quickly once warmer weather comes. Winter-kill of grains, grasses and legumes is reported to be unusually light.

Wind damage is low and crops generally have been protected by snow during the coldest weather. Artificial drying of corn continues with much apprehension about wet corn spoiling when warm weather arrives.

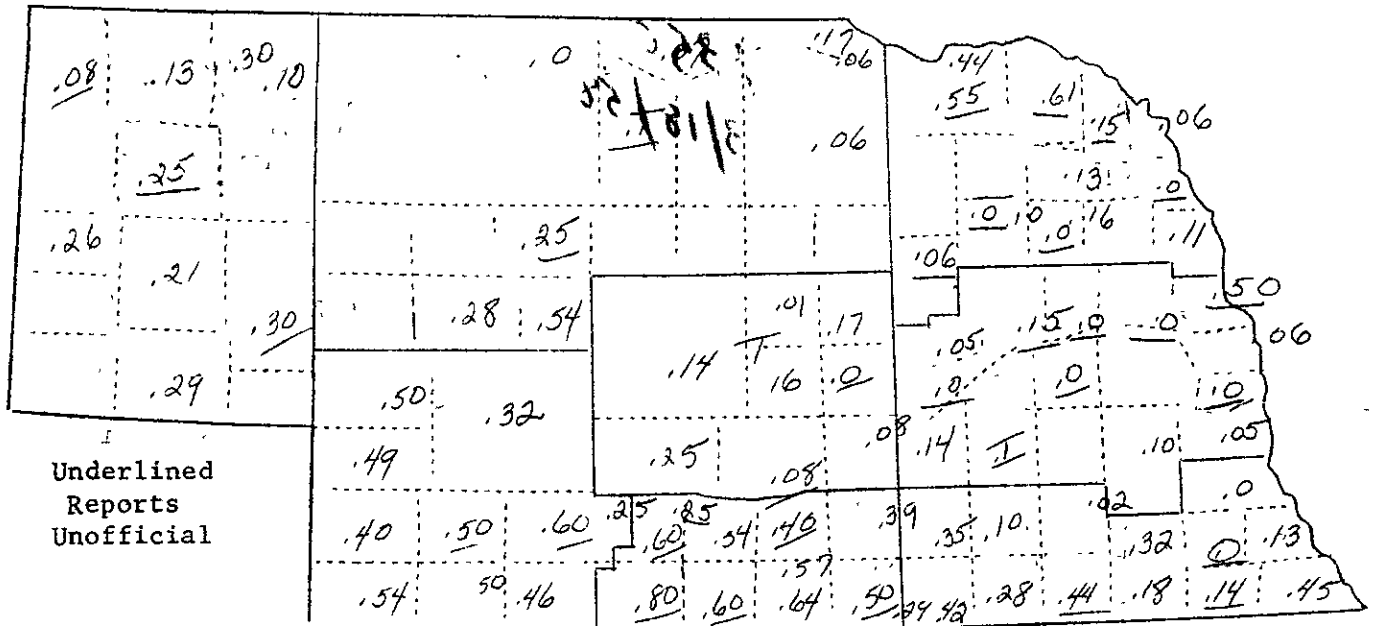
LIVESTOCK Heavy snows and muddy farmyards and feed lots continued to plague livestock producers. Some were having considerable trouble keeping track of cattle herds and newborn calves in areas hit by heavy snow. Calf losses were noted in the southwestern counties. Feed lot gains were slow again last week. Operators were having difficulty moving feed and many livestock were bogged down in excessive mud.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle and calves into the state for January and February this year totaled 117,000 head compared with 68,000 head in the corresponding period last year. Sheep and lamb shipments for the first 2 months this year were 47,000 head, 43 percent below shipment a year earlier.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 17, 1958

East		Central		West	
Grand Island	.04	Burwell	0	Chadron	.16
Lincoln	.04	North Platte	.17	Imperial	.17
Norfolk	0	Valentine	0	Scottsbluff	.25
Omaha	0			Sidney	.34
Sioux City	0				

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 17, 1958



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		March		11th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	28	14	32	4	23	15	33	2	33	15	33	20	30	2		
	Scottsbluff	28	13	30	11	27	14	32	13	31	13	36	19	29	5		
	Sidney	27	-2	25	9	19	12	31	3	36	4	34	17	22	5		
NC	Burwell	--	2	--	16	30	18	28	5	29	3	32	9	28	17		
	Valentine	29	0	31	4	31	19	28	10	30	10	32	21	26	15		
NE	Norfolk	31	14	32	21	35	24	31	22	34	18	32	23	28	21		
	Sioux City	34	21	37	18	41	25	32	26	36	22	31	23	29	27		
Gen.	Grand Island	32	17	34	24	33	22	30	9	30	7	34	10	30	18		
EC	Lincoln	34	27	34	29	38	27	35	26	37	22	38	23	31	28		
	Omaha	30	26	34	22	39	25	34	27	35	22	33	21	30	26		
SW	Imperial	26	8	30	2	23	10	29	-1	30	-1	32	9	25	12		
	North Platte	26	-7	26	2	25	14	28	-2	28	-4	33	11	27	7		

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